

Environmentally Speaking



U.S. EPA COMPREHENSIVE PROCUREMENT GUIDELINE (CPG) RULE DIRECTS USE OF REPROCESSED LATEX PAINT

Section 6002 of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) formally establishes the Federal Government's "buy-recycled" program. This statute requires the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to designate items that are or can be made with recovered materials and to prepare guidelines that assist procuring agencies in complying with affirmative procurement requirements.

Accordingly, since 1997, the US EPA has annually published Comprehensive Procurement Guidelines (CPGs) for groups of items designated recoverable. Included within these Guidelines are Recovered Material Advisory Notices (RMANs) which detail the quantity of recovered material that should be in each product. Federal agencies that purchase these designated items are required to purchase items that meet the established RMANs, if these items are available in their area for a reasonable cost and without an unreasonable delay.

Latex paint is one such product. The RMAN for reprocessed latex paint (intended for interior and exterior architectural applications) states that this paint should have a minimum of 20% recovered materials content for white, off-white and pastel colors, and 50% recovered materials content for gray, brown, earth tones, and other dark colors. The federal community can now purchase fully compliant paint via the General Services Administration's on-line

GSA Advantage! system, or out of the GSA Environmental Product and Services Guide. GSA Advantage! and the Environmental Product and Services Guide can be accessed at the following web sites, respectively.

<http://www.gsa.gov/fssintro.htm>

<http://pub.fss.gsa.gov/environ/pdf/epguidelq.pdf>

Now, more than ever before, federal facilities can and must systematically "green" their procurement practices. Pollution Prevention Programs can include both an environmentally friendly acquisition strategy and traditional end-of-pipe recycling and treatment alternatives. Technical questions regarding paint acquisition can be directed to the GSA Federal Supply Service Hardware and Appliance Center in Kansas City, Missouri, Mr. Irv Ostrich, at (816) 823-3087, Ron Foster at (816) 823-1293 or Randy Schober at (816) 926-2429/DSN 465-2429. If you have questions:

CONTACT

Customer Service

PHONE : (816) 926-7315

DSN : 465-7315

FAX : (816) 926-7971

DECOMPOSABLE MACHINERY WIPING TOWELS AVAILABLE FROM GSA STOCK

Two new wiping towels have been added to the GSA stock program. The low lint, high absorbency, and decomposable features of these towels provide an environmentally friendly alternative to terry cloth. Made of 100% hydro-entangled white rayon.

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Price:	\$177.55

Send orders directly to GSA by FEDSTRIP/MILSTRIP, mail, phone, fax, E-mail, or GSA Advantage! at <http://www.fss.gsa.gov> or call the Customer Supply Center at 1-800-525-8027.

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